

REMARKS

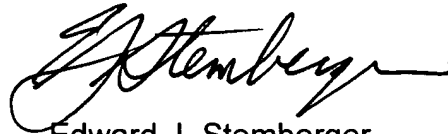
Reconsideration and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 14-16 have been canceled. Claims 2-12 and 17-20 remain pending.

Claims 2-12 and 17-20 have been allowed.

Thus, to place this application in condition for allowance expeditiously, rejected claims 14-16 have been canceled.

Since this application is in condition for allowance, a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Stemberger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Edward J. Stemberger
Reg. No. 36,017
Tel. No. 202.261.1014
Fax No. 202.887.0336

Customer No. 20736